



Southeastern DX Club

W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB

September 2011

President's Report:

Summer vacation and summer static are making way for fall antenna fixing and chasing DX on 40, 80, and 160 meters. The T32C Christmas Island DXpedition group with our own Paul, KG4UVU will be set to excite the bands at the end of this month (September 27th to October 25th).

As I am writing this article there are about six good-size sunspots and the solar flux is 119 with an A index of 11 and a K index of 3. Many of our members understand the significance of the numbers. For those who have partial or limited knowledge of how the sunspots and indexes determine whether we have propagation on 160 meters or if 10 meters will be open day and night, our September meeting will help to explain how the sun's activities affect our ham radio activities.

We are very fortunate to have Dr. David Hathaway from NASA as our guest speaker. Dr. Hathaway is a Solar Scientist and will speak to us about the sunspot cycle as it affects our ham radio activities. Please plan to attend and yes, invite your local radio club members to attend this very informative speaker.

Looking ahead, keep your October calendar open for HamJam 2011. Coming Saturday October 22nd the North Fulton Amateur Radio League (NFARL) and the SEDXC are joint sponsors of this very informative amateur radio event. With three special guest speakers and many fine door prizes you will not want to miss HamJam 2011.

73,

Jim C. KT4MM

Vice President's Report:

From your newest VP.

Thanks for the appointment, I think! I'll try to be an asset.

September Program

Solar Propagation

Presented by:

Dr. David Hathaway

In September we have a special guest, Dr. David Hathaway, NASA Solar Scientist, who will discuss our current sun spot cycle and what this means to ham radio. If you've always been confused about all the sunspot numbers and A and K indexes then this is a must attend program. We will be encouraging other clubs in the area to attend. Please try to bring a friend with you to this meeting. This is a rare opportunity to hear one of the foremost experts in the world on the Sun.

October Program is Selling Raffle Tickets for HamJam2011 and being there!

November Program

Making the Best of What You Have

Presented by:

Fred Dennin WW4LL

Our November program features our very own Fred WW4LL who will discuss setting up a contest station. Contesting has direct application to chasing DX and everyone is sure to pick up a tip or two to improve their personal ham station and operating practice. You won't want to miss this program.

And don't forget if you hear of, think of, or visit a great program let me know!

Norm, WA4ZXV

Treasurers Report:

SEDXC Financial position as of August 31, 2011

The balance on hand in the operating account at the end of August was \$5,955.56 plus \$885 of cash in transit to the bank.

Activity in the month:

Receipts in Transit from PayPal:	\$715.00
Undeposited funds	170.00
Disbursements were as follows:	
Great Lake Plaques	
(president's plaque)	\$105.50
KT4MM - Picnic supplies	\$191.34
Great Lake Plaques – badges	\$80.50

The membership has approved funding for the following DXpeditions. Funding will be made in September.

Malpelo – HK0NA	\$1000.00
Narau - C21A	200.00
Pitcairn Isl – VP6T	200.00

A funding request has been received for Banaba T33HA from the guys who did such a FB job on Chesterfield. The executive committee will be making a recommendation at the meeting for support.

Raffle tickets for HamJam 2011 will be available at the meeting. 5 Tickets for \$20.00 or \$5.00 each. Go to www.hamjam.info to look at the expanding list of prizes. You need not be present to win the Kenwood TS-590 or the Elecraft KX3.

73 es dx

Mike, ND4V

Activities Report:

No report this month.

Secretaries Report:

MINUTES OF THE 18 AUGUST, 2011 MEETING

Call to order at 7:30 PM with 36 in attendance with introduction by all. The first order of business was the election of Norm WA4ZXV as the new vice president and program chair.

Program was presented by Weymouth Walker K8EAB, "The Buddipole Antenna System." Wey is a mini-DXpedition veteran and has had two trips to date with the Buddipole team. His first was the 2009 FS/PJ7/PJ6 St. Martin excursion and second was the 2010 St. Lucia suitcase DXpedition.

The Buddipole system was designed by Budd Drummond W3FF in 2000. The Deluxe system used by Wey in both expeditions is a lightweight and is a good portable antenna for backpacking and hiking with all components weighing in at less than 10 pounds. It can be configured as a vertical, a dipole, or an OCF and will operate in the VHF and HF bands from 2 to 40 meters. The system uses a couple of tunable coils with one wound longer than the other and color coded for identification. The coils have a high Q, so they are easily de-tuned.

The Buddipole company offers variations of it's system and even has information available on the Internet showing how to build your own version. Scott Anderson NE1RD used available accessories from Buddipole to construct a 15 meter 2 element Yagi with all parts that fit into two small bags. KP2/NE1RD used the setup for 23 hours in the CQ WW WPX March 2010 contest to rack up 676,039 points- and all were 5 watts QRP!

Business:

Plaque was awarded to Bob W2WG to commemorate his past two years of leadership as president. Motions were made and passed to fund C21A up to \$250, VP9T up to \$250, and HK0NA up to \$1000.

Announcements:

Jim W4QO – HamJam is set for October 22, 2011 in Roswell. Go to www.HamJam.info for ticket and program information. Three great speakers and even more great prizes this year.

Norm WA4ZXV - Oct. 8 is date for Vibroplex special event in Norcross. There will be a real Norcross bug on display and in use!

Chaz W4GKF - Ga QSO Party needs some assistance from someone has good computer skills and likes to work with details.

Wey K8EAB - K4L Lighthouse operation in St. George Island, FL Oct. 5-9.

Mike - ND4V will present "The art of QSL'ing" at the ARC September meeting.

The raffle was very good with lots of good prizes. Thanks to all who brought something and let's keep it up!

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted
Newt N4EWT
Secretary

We have a couple of interesting features this month as well as DXpedition funding request. The first is a write up of the VH9HR DXpedition that included our own Don Nesbitt, N4HH, and the second is an article about Nils-Gustav SM5EEP's experiences and his encounter with Guy, W4GBU, when he visited Georgia and the SEDXC back in 2005 . It has been translated from the Swedish by Dale Nordin, K4HGG.

VK9HR:

Planning by the Hellenic Amateur Radio Association of Australia for the DXpedition to Lord Howe Island (OC-004) between July 23rd and August 2nd 2011 began in February 2011. The VK9HR (Hellenic Radio) callsign was issued on April 6th 2011 by the

Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA).

Team Leader Tommy Horozakis VK2IR (HARAOA President) and Co-Leader John Chalkiarakis VK3YP (HARAOA Treasurer) began the long process of organising all the equipment, antennas and logistics.

The aim was to put together an international team including VK's and thus we were delighted to have David EB7DX as the QSL Manager and webmaster for VK9HR. David EB7DX was most recently the QSL Manager for the very successful 4A4A Revillagigedo Archipelago DXpedition in March 2011.

All the equipment was shipped from Australia to Lord Howe Island using both sea freight (boat) for the antennas etc. and air freight for the HF radios and Amplifiers in the week prior to the start of the DXpedition.

The entire VK9HR team comprising of Tommy VK2IR, John VK3YP, Peter VK2NN, Bruce VK2KLM, Raffy VK2RF, Ed G8GLM, Don N4HH, Les W2LK, Saul K2XA and Alex OZ7AM all met at Sydney Airport for the flight to Lord Howe Island on the morning of Saturday July 23rd 2011.

The team arrived safely at Lord Howe Island late afternoon and we began the task of setting up the stations. We managed to get the Steppir BigIR vertical installed that afternoon before dark so we could begin making contacts. Early next morning and the remainder of Sunday were spent setting up all the antennas from 160M to 6M located at two separate sites. By the evening we had everything setup and everyone was very tired but we finally had all the six HF stations operational.

Our Many Antennas:

- 160M Inverted L using a Spiderbeam 18m fibreglass mast and a 200 metre long RX beverage.
- 80M 1/4 wave vertical and also a 1/2 wave Dipole.
- 40M – 2 Element Moxon Beam and also a 1/4 wave vertical
- 30M – Steppir BigIR Vertical (additionally covered 80M – 6M as well).
- 20M – 3 Element Yagi
- 17M – 2 Element Moxon
- 15M – 3 Element Yagi
- 12M - 2 Element Moxon

- 10M – 3 Element Yagi
- 6M – 3 Element Yagi

All the antennas performed very well with the 160M vertical (located close to the water) performing exceptionally well with strong signals into NA, JA and VK.

For the first few days the band conditions were not the best with the SFI around the 80's, but slowly the SFI started to climb to over 100 and the bands become alive with massive openings on 20M, 17M, 15M and even 12M. We also had an opening on 10M and even a couple of contacts on 6M.

Our six (6) HF Radios comprising of 3 x Kenwood TS-590S, 2 x Yaesu FT-857's and an ICOM IC-7000 where all connected via CAT and digital interfaces (built in USB on the TS-590S) to N1MM for logging and also DM-780 for RTTY. We used three (3) SPE Amplifiers comprising of 2 x SPE-1K-FA and 1 x SPE-2K-FA and also 3 x RM-ITALY HLA-300V amplifiers. The Kenwood TS-590S radios performed exceptionally well with our CW operator Alex OZ7AM commenting that he had previously used a Elecraft K3 on CW and he could not pick any difference in performance on CW between the K3 and the TS590S. Our SPE amplifiers were also a stand out in performance – all running nearly 24 hours a day and not missing a beat.

In the pileups, the North American and JA discipline was excellent. The European discipline was mostly very good, as is often heard with DXpedition stations, there was minimal jamming activity.

The RSGB IOTA contest was also entered on the weekend of July 30-31 using the callsign of VK9IR, thus allowing our other stations to continue operating as VK9HR on the other bands. Almost 2,000 contacts and 12,153 contest points was realised for the IOTA contest.

The cost for this DXpedition was over \$25,000. Many thanks go to the sponsors (including many personal contributors) who assisted in offsetting some of these costs. Corporate Sponsor list: RF Solutions, SPE, Steppir, Kenwood, Spiderbeam, The Pest Control Company, Ham Radio Outlet, ATRC, Begali, Island Connection and Tower Tees. DX Foundation Sponsor list: Nippon DX, Danish DX Group, EUDXF, German DX Foundation, SEDXC, HVCDX, Chiltern DX

Club, MDXC, Clipperton DX Club and Swiss DX Foundation.

Great Planning, Great Operators and a lot of hard work prior to and during the DXpedition and many operating hours by the team realised some 17,000 contacts during a seven day operating period. A special thanks

to our CW operators of Alex OZ7AM, Don N4HH, Les W2LK and Saul K2XA .

All QSL ing for this expedition is via EB7DX. To all the VK9HR team and most importantly our corporate and DX foundation sponsors we thank you. Stay tuned for another HARAOA DXpedition in 2012.



GA – Georgia On My Mind – Summer Visit
by Nils-Gustav Ström, SM5EEP (Translated by K4HGG)

Last fall, my son Hans (ex SM5JBJ) with his XYL, moved from Wisconsin to Georgia. I checked my QSLs and found a bunch of QSL cards from Georgia. Among the SSB QSLs (1998), I found a card via Nisse, SM7DBD, from K4HGG, Dale Nordin in Marietta located close to Atlanta. In QTC (magazine) 1/05 page 11 there is a picture of Dale (using his Swedish call SM1WRI). I have had very few QSOs in my favorite mode of SSTV. Strangely enough I had a QSO in February and again in April on SSTV, with Guy W4GBU in Stone Mountain on the outskirts of Atlanta.

According to the “schedule”, my XYL and I were supposed to visit Hans in the USA in 2006 but his move to Georgia into his newly built house moved up our plans to 2005. In the preparations, several e-mails and

telephone contacts were made between Dale in GA, Nisse (SM7DBD) in Rottne, and Nisse (SM5EEP) in Fagersta. Dale urged me to, among other things, take my 2m handie-talkie with me where the repeater access is extensive. About a week before our departure, this e-mail came in from Dale:

“Hi Nils

When I was at the DX club (SEDXC) meeting last night and met Guy Shields – W4GBU. He mentioned that you exchange SSTV pictures on 20 meters. He sent me some pictures via e-mail so now I know what you look like”

With minus degrees outside (Celcius) we departed for our 7th. trip to the USA at 0200 hours on the 20th of May, via Arlanda (Stockholm) Airport, then on to Amsterdam and arrived in Atlanta after 17 hours of travelling. We then went through the security checks including fingerprinting, photographing and checking my shoes and socks. My 2m hand-held in my hand baggage didn't arouse any suspicion. Then it was out to the baggage carousel to collect our baggage and where Hans and his XYL met us with smiling faces to see “mom & dad”. It was Friday and the rush-hour traffic on the 6-lane road to Cumming (normal driving time 1 hour, this time at little more than 2 hours) where Hans lived and which would be our home for the next 4 weeks.

MEETING WITH THE SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB, ATLANTA

I called Dale some days after (our) arrival and he invited me to the monthly meeting of the SEDXC (www.sedxc.org) the following Tuesday. Unbelievably friendly Dale picked me up at Hans' (house), drove from Marietta in a lot of rush-hour traffic from Marietta to Cumming and back to Atlanta. Before the meeting the members gathered at a cafeteria (Panera) for supper where W4GBU, with my SSTV-QSL cards and xerox copies of the SSTV pictures he received from me, and explained for the rest of them that SM5EEP – Nils with his 260 SSTV-DXCC (WW High) has showed up here. I have to admit that I was taken by the seriousness of the moment.

(After supper) We moved to the meeting room at Piedmont Hospital where the customary program items were taken care of. There was a quite an open discussion of the members to submit their tips, news etc. about amateur radio. Chairman Les (Wes) W3WL discussed about FT5XO Kerguilen Island that was counted as the DXpedition of the year 2004-2005. K4SSU, David gave some viewpoints about the DX forum at the Dayton Hamvention. The slide show from the convention received applause. I had the opportunity to exchange some words with one of the members of the cancelled DXpedition 3Y0X. Unfortunately I didn't get to talk to Bob K4UEE.

My new experience (at the club meeting) was complete and it was time to leave (Atlanta). After the meeting David, K4SSU took me back to Cumming.

Georgia offers not only amateur radio, but sun, warmth, and sightseeing. Just to keep things in order, I would like to say that W4/SM5EEP worked 12 QSOs over the Cumming repeater (input 147.750, output 147.150 without access tone) As mentioned, there is another Georgia with possibilities for a foreigner to acquaint himself with. In Atlanta I visited CNN (building) and then the home of Gone With the Wind author Margaret Mitchell. A small community welcomed us with the words “DAHLONEGA site of first major US gold rush” where we bought several kilos of sand in order to pan for gold. We got a few genuine gold nuggets HI. In the beginning of June near Dahlonega, we visited a wine tasting festival at Cane Creek Vineyards. A two-day trip to Savannah gave me a super history lesson from the past to the present. Enchanting views were played out during our two-day visit via the Appalachian Mountains up to the Smoky Mountain National Park. Finally I would like to challenge (all of) you. Take care of the ham radio guests that visit you.

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The SEDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southeastern DX Club . All opinions expressed by the contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, officers, or club. We welcome your opinion

DX COMMUNICATION FREQ.

Simplex 147.54

K4JPD Repeater (tone 85.4 Hz) 147.195 +600

SPECIAL NOTE:

The club is now using the Repeater on 145.410, down 600, for chatting and real time DX announcements.

Join the group there. No tone required

SEDXC WEBPAGE www.sedxc.org

SEDXC REFLECTOR sedxc@contesting.com

Entity Name / Call Sign	Marquesas Island / TX7M
Web page	http://tx7m.com/
Team leader / number of members:	Oleg R3FA / 11 high experienced operators - http://tx7m.com/team.php
Approx. Date and duration of Dxpediton	From 19 th of Oct 2011 to 01 st Nov 2011 (totally 13 days)
QSL manager / QSL route	QSL via RZ3EC Eugene Shelkanovtcev PO Box 70 Orel, 302028 RUSSIA All ways are accepted – Bureau, LoTW, Direct
Budget estimated for Dxpediton	~ 65 ... 70 K USD. 4300 USD paid by every participant, which covers flights from Kiev via Papiete (FO) to FO/m and back. + Cash should be taken by every participant to cover Hotel on Tahiti (2 nights operation, dedicated to Low Bands is planned), and accommodation on FO/m The team need to transfer a lot of Low Band equipment, but the small aircraft from FO to FO/m will require huge extra payment for such luggage, some of the used equipment is going to be presented to FO HAM community to store there and to be used for coming expeditions in that area. Special PAs power mixer is going to be de developed and constructed to summarize 2 PAs power into 1 antenna on 80 / 160m
Position on most wanted list:	The FO/m is ranked as below, based on GDXF Most Wanted list 2010 - http://gdx.de/mostwanted/2010.html 24th - Mixed 26th - CW 12th - SSB
Landing permit/operating permission approved.	Operating permission is approved, licenses are given - http://tx7m.com/news.php
Last time this entity was activated	From 16.10.2009 to 22.10.2009 from Marquesas Archipelago (TX5SPM)
Typical interval between activations	2 ...3 years
Anyone planning to activate this entity before your DXpediton	No information is found
Objective / Strategy	Not less than 30 K QSOs, special focus on 160 – 80m bands, where this entity is veery rare. 4 stations / 24 hours with Power Amplifiers with very effective low angle antennas are going to be used - http://tx7m.com/plans.php

Callsign/Age of youngest Team member	Alex UX0LL – 30 years old
SEDXC member initiating request	
SEDXC member(s) participating	
Funding amount requested	SEDXC has been had a long successful history in supporting of big DXped. We hope, your Cluvb will be in the highest level of supporting clubs (> 500 ... 1000 USDs), but any your kind donation will be gratefully accepted.
Send Funds to:	Please use the PayPal options: http://tx7m.com/sponsors.php
SEDXC logo on QSL cards?	Sure!
SEDXC logo on web page?	Sure! Please send the logo to rz3em@yandex.ru
Additional comments: Always at your disposal to clarify any other questions to let you make your choice in support of this expedition.	

Entity Name / Call Sign	Banaba T33HA, W. Kiribati T30HA, Tuvalu T2HA, Fiji 3D2HA
Web page	http://ha5ao.novolab.hu
Team leader / number of members:	HA5AO, total number of members: 2
Approx. Date and duration of Dxpediton	08. January-27 February 2012
QSL manager / QSL route	QSL Manager: HA5UK Kovacs Gyorgy 1162 Budapest, Csur u. 15. Hungary
Budget estimated for Dxpediton	Flight tickets 8,000 \$ Accomodation 4,000 \$ 40 nights, 100 USD/night Food & drinks 4,000 \$ 40 days, 50 USD/day/person Excess laguage expenses 6,000 \$ Estimated calculation Boat Transfer to Banaba 9,000 \$ Estimated for at least for 10 days Cost of living on Banaba 2,000 \$ Estimated for at least for 10 days Fuel 1,000 \$ for aggregators and renting aggregators to Banaba Total: 34,000 \$ Team member contribution 16,000 \$ (8,000 \$/person) Difference 18,000 \$ Hoped to be covered by sponsors

Position on most wanted list:	DXCC/WW MWL/EU MWL/Mix RTTY/EU Mix RTTY T33 51 59 33 29 T30 74 62 48 18 T2 75 49 52 18
Landing permit/operating permission approved.	Landing permit to Banaba received from the Council of Elders Licences approved and received for T33 anT30. T2 and 3D2 licences will be issued after arrival, callsign allocated and confirmed
Last time this entity was activated	T33 in 2008 T30 in 2010 T2 in 2010 as we know
Typical interval between activations	4-2 years
Anyone planning to activate this entity before your DXpedition	Hopefully no. We have no information if anyone else plan to go there before our planned operation
Objective / Strategy	<p>We want to make as much as QSO possible from these three rare location. Two stations will be on the air 160-10 m band, on CW, SSB, RTTY, and some PSK and SSTV operation also can be expected. Our target is to make 70 kQSO altogether.</p> <p>Station set up: Two stations will be on the air, working on CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV, PSK modes on all HF bands (160-10 m). Transceivers: Icom IC-7000 PAs: Tokyo Hy-Power HL-1.1KFX solid state linear Antenna 80-10 m bands: SteppIR BigIR vertical with 80 m coil Antenna 40-10 m bands: Wire vertical on Spider pole with SGC SG-235 automatic antenna coupler Antenna 160-80 m bands: Wire vertical on Spider pole with SGC SG-235 automatic antenna coupler, RX: Beverage Interfaces: microKEYER II Bandpass filters: Dunestar Antennas will be set up in the salt water.</p> <p>QSL Policy: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> LoTW (logs will be uploaded during the expedition, as frequently as possible) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Individual contributors with at least 50 USD (automatically without any further request) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> OQRS direct requests <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> mail direct requests <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> OQRS buro requests <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> normal buro requests (please note that both buro paths take certainly long time as always) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> eQSL</p>



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W4NT

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September 2011

SEDXC member initiating request	
SEDXC member(s) participating	
Funding amount requested	
Send Funds to:	HA5AO PayPal account: ha5ao@hdsnet.hu
SEDXC logo on QSL cards?	Yes
SEDXC logo on web page?	Yes
Additional comments: We will leave Budapest on 8 January. The operation will start from Tuvalu, on 12 January, as T2HA. We will be back to Fiji on 26 January and 3 days of operation can be expected as 3D2HA. We will leave for Tarawa, on 31 January. Operation from Kiribati will take place till 23 February. We will attempt to go over Banaba for 7-10 days within this period. We will do our best to get over to Banaba, but the exact time of T33HA Banaba operation can be announced from Tarawa only. The landing permit to Banaba, licenses and flight tickets to Fiji, Tuvalu and Tarawa are in hand. The radios, antennas, PA's and other technical stuff have already been put together and packed. The weight of these packages exceeds the 100 kg (200 pounds). We will bring everything with us, as excess baggages. This DX pedition is not an expedition with dozen of operators, neither a family holiday. It will be a <i>"simple two men show"</i> . However our 8 weeks long operating plan, working from 3 different rare countries, make it very expensive. We will cover the flight tickets, accommodations and other personal expenses. The excess baggage fees and the transfer to Banaba are extremely expensive. Thus we are seeking support from DX Foundations and Organisations to help us to cover the extremely high transfer expenses to Banaba and the excess baggage fees.	